

Remarks:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-12 and 14-18 remain in the application. Claims 1-4, 7, 9-12, and 17-18 have been amended. Claim 13 has been cancelled. Claims 5-6, 8, and 14-16 have been withdrawn from consideration.

In item 5 on page 3 of the above-identified Office action, the drawings have been objected to as not showing "a reference signal" and "a route" deemed essential for a proper understanding of the invention by the Examiner.

In item 6 on page 3 of the Office action, the drawings have been objected to as not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims under 37 CFR 1.83(a). More specifically, the Examiner has stated that "the route within the integrated circuit component of claims 2 and 18; a component tester of claim 11; and a system of claim 13 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s)".

The drawing of Fig. 1 has been amended to illustrate the "Reference Signal" applied to one externally accessible connecting contact point such that the "Reference Signal" can be passed to a circuit point which is not externally

accessible, and to illustrate the "Electrical Signal" received at the other externally accessible connecting contact point from circuit points not externally accessible. Since the illustrated semiconductor component uses a multiplexer, it is believed to be inherent that there are various routes within the illustrated semiconductor component 1, from which, depending on the switching of the multiplexer, a route is selected. Consequently, the drawings have not been amended to show "a route".

Furthermore, Fig.1 has been amended to illustrate a "Component Tester" or a "System Analyzer".

In item 7 on page 3 of the Office action, the specification has been objected to as being "replete with terms which are not clear, concise and exact". The Examiner's comments have been considered and the appropriate changes have been made to the claims. It is noted that the **external** test connecting contact points and the test connecting contact points are different features.

In items 8-11 on page 4 of the Office action, the claims have been objected to because of informalities.

In item 12 on pages 4 and 5 of the Office action, claim 4 has been rejected because the specification does not provide enablement under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

In item 13 on page 5 of the Office action, claims 11-12 and 18 have been rejected as "failing to comply with the written description requirement" under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. The Examiner's comments have been considered and the appropriate corrections have been made to the claims.

In item 14 on page 6 of the Office action, claim 4 has been rejected as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

In item 15 on page 6 of the Office action, claims 2, 11-13, and 18 have been rejected as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

The Examiner's comments have been considered and the appropriate corrections have been made to the claims where necessary.

It is accordingly believed that the specification, drawings, and the claims meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs. Should the Examiner find any further objectionable items, Counsel would appreciate a telephone call

during which the matter may be resolved. The above-noted changes to the claims are provided solely for the purpose of satisfying formal requirements or are made solely for cosmetic reasons to clarify the claims. The changes are neither provided for overcoming the prior art nor do they narrow the scope of the claims for any reason related to the statutory requirements for a patent.

In item 18 on page 8 of the Office action, claims 1 and 17 have been rejected as being anticipated by *Palagonia* (US 5,895,978) under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

The rejection has been considered and claims 1 and 17 have been amended to recite that the electrical signals are monitored for **test** purposes, in an effort to even more clearly define the invention of the instant application. Support for the changes is found in the last paragraph on page 3 of the specification.

Before discussing the prior art in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful.

Claim 1 (similarly claim 17) as amended calls for, inter alia:

An integrated circuit component, comprising:

a plurality of circuit points being not externally accessible, providing various electrical signals of the integrated circuit component to be **monitored for test purposes**;

at least one connecting contact point externally accessible; and

a multiplexer having an output connected to said at least one connecting contact point and having a plurality of inputs, each one of said plurality of inputs being connected to a respective one of said plurality of circuit points.

The Examiner stated in item 18 on pages 8 and 9 of the Office action, that:

Palagonia in fig. 2 discloses: an integrated circuit component [40], comprising:

a first plurality of circuit points (plurality of circuit points of claim 1) [46 with 42A] not being externally accessible;

a second plurality of circuit points [46 with 44] not being externally accessible;

a first connecting contact point (at least one connecting contact point of claim 1) [42A] being externally accessible;

a second connecting contact point [next to 42A] being externally accessible;

a first multiplexer (a multiplexer of claim 1) [MUX of 46 with 42A] having an output [output of MUX to 42A] connected to said first connecting contact point (at least one connecting contact point of claim 1) and having a plurality of inputs (from 46), each one of said plurality of inputs being connected [via 52] to a respective one of said first plurality of circuit points (plurality of circuit points) [46].

a second multiplexer [MUX 44] having an output [output of MUX 44] connected to said second connecting contact point and having a plurality of inputs [from 46 or 1101,

each one of said plurality of inputs being connected [via 52] to a respective one of said second plurality of circuit points [46 with 44].

Col. 3, lines 13-24, of *Palagonia* state:

FIG. 2 shows a portion of the semiconductor die 40 intended to be connected to interposer 10. Die pads 42A are connected through lands 56 to die MUX's 44. Multiple die having I/O functions 46 each producing an I/O signal are connected to die MUX's 44 by lands 52. Die pads 42B are connected through lands 58 to die MUX clock and control logic 48. Multi wire bus 50 carries clock and control signals to die MUX's 52. Die pads 42C carry power to die. Die pads 42A will be connected to interconnect pads 26A and die pads 42B will be connected to interconnect pads 26B when the die 40 is attached to interposer 10 shown in FIG. 1. Likewise, die pads 42C will be connected to interconnect pads 26C.

Fig. 2 of *Palagonia* is re-produced below:

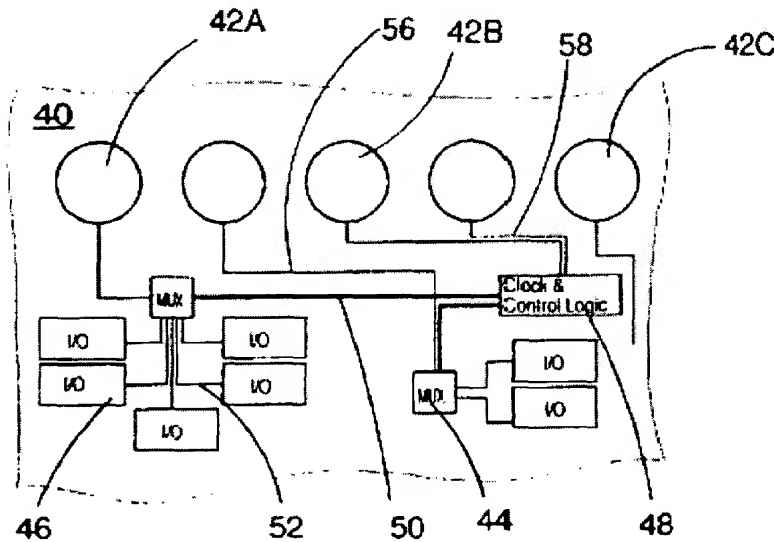


FIG. 2

Except for the above paragraph and Fig. 2, "pads 42A" are not further described or mentioned in *Palagonia*.

Clearly, *Palagonia* does not show at least one connecting contact point externally accessible for monitoring electrical signals **for test purposes**, as recited in claims 1 and 17 of the instant application. Therefore, the invention as recited in claims 1 and 17 of the instant application is believed not to be anticipated by *Palagonia*.

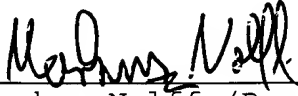
It is accordingly believed to be clear that *Palagonia* does not show the features of claims 1 and 17. Claims 1 and 17 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art and because claims 2-12 are ultimately dependent on claim 1 and claims 15-16 are ultimately dependent on claim 14, they are believed to be patentable as well.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-12 and 14-16 are solicited.

If an extension of time is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



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